

FEW and FEWER

Guy Few and Mark Fewer share the stage for their powerhouse duo FEW and FEWER. These two superstar Canadian soloists captivate audiences with their irrepressible energy, eclectic programming and incredible talent. Whether in recital or with orchestra this duo never fails to impress.



Photographer: Sophie Hogan

Guy Few is a virtuoso, in demand as a trumpeter, cornist, pianist and singer. Montreal's *Le Devoir* calls him "outrageously gifted" and "quite simply phenomenal".

Equally at home in classical or contemporary genres, Guy has debuted new works by Canadian composers including Glen Buhr, Peter Hatch, Alain Trudel, Melissa Hui, Boyd McDonald, Mathieu Lussier and Jacques Héту among others. He has recorded for S.N.E., Arsiv Classics, CBC Musica Viva, CBC SM5000, Naxos, MSR and the Hänssler Classics labels. Hänssler recordings include the Grammy Award winning *Credo* of Penderecki with the Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra, Helmuth Rilling conductor. June 2008 marks the release of *Romanza* (Hummel, Lachner, Weber), with Nadina Mackie Jackson and The Toronto Chamber Orchestra, Nicholas McGegan conductor for MSR Classics.

Guy has been invited as a professor, adjudicator, soloist, principal and recitalist to hundreds of festivals including The Festival of the Sound, Scotiafest, The Orford Festival, The Kiwanis National Music Festival, The Ottawa Chamber Festival, The Elora Festival, Tanglewood, Takefu International Music Festival and The Oregon Bach Festival. Clinics and master classes have been presented for festivals worldwide including Scotiafest, Takefu International Music Festival, Orford Arts Centre and The Banff Centre for the Arts as well as post-secondary institutions such as the Montreal Conservatory, the University of Toronto, Memorial University of Newfoundland, State University of New



Photographer: Ian Clowes

Mark Fewer enjoys one of the most varied musical lives of his generation. Known for his relaxed style and honest interpretations, he switches easily between roles as soloist, chamber musician, orchestral leader, jazz musician, artistic programmer, and most recently, teacher.

Mr. Fewer was concertmaster of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra from 2004-08, during which time he gave Canadian premieres of concerto works by John Adams (*The Dharma at Big Sur* for six-string electric violin and orchestra) and Ludwig van Beethoven (*Unfinished Violin Concerto WoO5*), as well as the Vancouver premiere of Felix Mendelssohn's *Concerto for Violin, Piano and Orchestra*. He also led the orchestra in traditional kappelmeister style (without conductor) on several occasions in baroque and classical repertoire. In recognition of his work with the VSO, he was recognized by the Vancouver Sun as one of the music industry's top "Movers and Shakers" for 2006.

New works are regularly written for him, most recently "Nine Daies Wonder" for violin and brass band by Bramwell Tovey. In it, Mr. Fewer recites Shakespearean text to follow the nine-day publicity stunt of William Kemp (Shakespeare's comedic actor) from London to Norwich in the 1600s.

With an expanding profile as a jazz violinist, he is soon to appear with Bill Frisell at the Detroit Symphony's "8 Days in June" festival. He is also arranging a new Miles

York at Fredonia and Sonoma State University.

Guy is a gold medal graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario and holds a Fellowship Diploma from Trinity College, London, England. He performs and records on a regular basis with Nadina Mackie Jackson (bassoon), Stephanie Mara (piano) and Bellows and Brass. He has appeared on CBC-TV, CTV, BRAVO, TV5 and European television broadcasts and is heard regularly on CBC Radio and NPR.

Guy Few and Nadina Mackie Jackson were recently appointed as co-artistic directors of the Grand River Baroque Festival. Guy is a sessional lecturer at Wilfrid Laurier University where he conducts the Wilfrid Laurier Brass Ensemble and teaches trumpet and duo piano. He is a Yamaha Artist.

"...one of the most brilliant brass players of his generation..."
(The Toronto Star)

"Outrageously Gifted...quite simply phenomenal"
(Le Devoir)

Davis tribute work for solo violin and strings, set to premiere in Ottawa in 2009.

He is Artistic Director of the Scotia Festival of Music in Halifax, and the SweetWater Music Weekend in Owen Sound, Ontario. His most recent appointment is to McGill University, where he teaches violin, chamber music, and string improvisation. (June 2008)

"...Fewer's leadership style...distinctly forward-looking..." (Vancouver Sun)

"The intrepid Fewer played with a mix of classical accuracy and fiddler's flair." (The Globe and Mail)

"You could hear jaws dropping in the audience." (The Chronicle Herald)

"Violinist Mark Fewer proved himself the comedic straight-man...." (The Denver Post)

Sample Program with Orchestra

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| Poet and Peasant Overture | von Suppe |
| Zigeunerweisen (violin, trumpet) | Sarasate |
| Rondo - from violin concerto #2 | Paganini |
| Variations on the Carnival of Venice (trumpet, violin, orchestra) | Arban |
| Diableries | Dompierre |
| Interval | |
| Three dances from On the Town | Bernstein |
| Trumpet in the Night | Simeone |
| Nina (voice, orchestra) | Coward |
| Skylark (voice, piano, saxophone) | Carmichael |

Sample Recital Program
 Guy Few - trumpet/piano/voice
 Mark Fewer - violin/saxophone
 Stephanie Mara - piano

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| Sonate for trumpet and piano | Hubeau |
| Sonate for violin and piano | Antheil |
| Fantasia Brillante (trumpet, violin, piano) | Arban |
| Zigeunerweisen, Op. 20 #1 (violin, trumpet, piano) | Sarasate |
| 'Round Midnight (voice, trumpet, violin, piano) | Monk |

"When could less and lesser ever be more!"

The Windsor Star Monday 23 February 2002

Few, Fewer, Trudel deliver

Trumpet, fiddle, trombone enliven pops concerts

You half expected Guy Few to haul out a kazoo next. The multi-talented Few blew a horn, tinkled the ivories and even crooned Hoagy Carmichael's Skylark at a pair of Windsor Symphony pops concerts at Cleary International Centre over the weekend.



TED SHAW
ENTERTAINMENT

The Saskatchewan native plays a mean trumpet, but his talents extend to the piano and singing, as well. He even threw in a couple of rumba moves for good measure.

After displaying his virtuosity on trumpet, Few electrified Saturday's near-capacity audience with a rendition of Danny Boy in a trained baritone.

Few was joined by two other prominent Canadian soloists, trombonist Alain Trudel and violinist Mark Fewer. Fewer, who has recorded with the Barenaked Ladies, is no less dazzling. He navigated Paganini's tricky Rondo from the Second Violin Concerto with ease and style.

It's about as breathtaking a nine minutes of fiddle playing as you're likely to hear.

The precision of the Newfoundland-born Fewer was also evident in the Sarasate showpiece Zigeunerweisen. Here, Few joined him unannounced and remarkably matched the violinist note for note in a mock joust of musical one-upmanship.

Trudel became localite for his many



Soloists Guy Few, left, and Mark Fewer perform with the Windsor Symphony at the Cleary International Centre Saturday night. Star photo: Kristine Racicot

guest-conducting appearances, functioned in that role for much of the concert. But he also demonstrated his own virtuosity on trombone in the jazzy duet for Skylark.

The concert was assembled by Trudel, who has toured with Few in a brass duet. The two certainly shared a passion and flair for musical adventurousness.

Trudel arranged both the Skylark rendition and the final work on the program, Noel Coward's lusty Nina from Sigh No More.

It was sung by Few to some rousing

ensemble playing by the orchestra.

The orchestra was duly commended by Trudel following a thrilling second-half performance of three dances from Leonard Bernstein's On The Town. The concert opened with a no-less exciting Poet and Peasant Overture, by Franz von Suppe.

Each half of the concert featured the two guest soloists in spotlight performances. Fewer's graceful reading of the Paganini in the first half was followed by four movements of Diableries (The Devils) by Quebec composer,

Francois Dompierre.

Few, looking like the Nigel Kennedy of the trumpet, performed Jean Baptiste Arban's 19th century virtuoso work Carnaval de Venise, as well as the Harry Simeone big band concert piece Trumpet in the Night.

The orchestra now takes nearly a month off until its next concert, a classics series performance of the Beethoven violin concerto by Yehonatan Berick on March 23 at Chrysler Theatre. Call 973-1238 for information.

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